

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 24 as follows:

One aspect of the present invention describes a device in the form of the gas spring ~~that is characterised by the independent device claim~~ for a pressing tool that includes a tube which forms a wall of a cylindrical chamber having a first end wall, which constitutes a first base surface and a second end wall which constitutes a second base surface of the cylindrical chamber. A piston is provided that is designed to rest against the tube, and is capable of reciprocating axially in the cylindrical chamber. The piston divides the chamber into a first space between the piston and the first end wall and a second space between the piston and the second end wall. The piston is attached to a piston rod which is axially moveable and supported so that it can slide in a piston rod guide at the first end wall. The piston has passages which connect the first space and the second space. The passages permit a flow of gas from the space that is subject to compression to the space that is subject to expansion under the axial movement of the piston rod. The gas spring provides an opposing force counteracting a movement that is produced by forces acting axially on the piston rod in that the first space and the second space are pressurized by means of a gas, wherein the passages which permit the flow of gas between the first space and the second space occupy an area which is greater than 5% of the area of the piston. The area of the piston is different between the cross-sectional areas of the cylindrical chamber and the piston rod in order to reduce the amount of heat generated in the gas spring.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 27 as follows:

A further aspect of the invention describes a method of reducing the pressure gradient that occurs between two pressurized spaces in a gas spring when the gas spring is subjected to spring forces ~~according to the independent method claim.~~ The method involves the reducing of a pressure gradient that occurs between a first space and a second space in a pressing tool gas spring which comprises a tube which forms a wall of a cylindrical chamber having a first end wall, which constitutes a first base surface and a second end wall which constitutes a second base surface of the cylindrical chamber and in which a piston is capable of reciprocating axially in the cylindrical chamber. The first space comprises a chamber which is formed between the piston and the first end wall and the second space comprises a chamber which is formed between the piston and the second end wall. The piston is attached to a piston rod which is axially moveable and supported so that it can slide in a piston rod guide at the first end wall. The gas spring has an opposing force counteracting a movement that is produced by forces acting axially on the piston rod in that the first space and the second space are pressurized by means of a gas. The first space and the second space are connected by way of passages and gas flowing via the passages from the space that is subject to compression to the space that is subject to expansion under the axial movement of the piston rod. The method includes providing the passages which connect the first space to the second space with a total cross-sectional area which represents at least 5% of the area of the piston. The piston area is regarded as the difference between the cross-sectional areas of the cylindrical chamber and the piston rod.